Edward Blake: College Student.

By Charles M. Sheldon.

Author of "In His Steps," "Malcom Kirk," "The Crucifixion of Philip Strong," "Robert Hardy's Seven Days." Copyright, 1899, in U. S. A., by Advance Publishing Co., Chicago.

It was a bright, frosty night, and they walked both ways. Edward as usual was silent until Freeda had asked a few questions.

"Are you working too hard, Ned?"

"No, I don't think so. I feel well enough. I'm pegging away at the debate all my spare time. It comes off this week Friday, you know."

"You have worked very hard on it, haven't you? I do hope you will win it," said Freeda, who, in spite of her disappointment in Edward, that he had not made a decision during the evangelistic meetings just closed, still felt the deepest possible interest in her brother's success and was very enthusiastic in her praise of his scholarly abilities.

"I shall do my level best. Are the girls coming out to the debate?"

Edward asked because there had been in past years a noticeable lack of interest on the part of the girls in the annual debate.

"Are they? Why, they are coming over in a body. You don't seem to realize, Ned, that you are very popular at the ladies' hall."

"Am I?" Among Edward's really sterling good qualities was an absence of conceit. If he prided himself on his morality overmuch, he was at least free from that pride of intellectual attainments or physical attractions that distinguished a good many college students. He was not a ladies' man, as Willis always was, and so far he had no special friends among the girls except Freeda. He did not seem to care one way or the other. He was one out of a very few men in college who probably never looked over to the girls' side of the room during chapel. And in classroom he managed to have a seat at the end of the row as far from any girl as he could get. He did not dislike girls' company. He was simply indifferent.

"You ought to have heard the girls talk about your great football play at the last game on the home grounds," said Freeda, who felt a little vexed at Edward's silent indifference.

Edward laughed a little. "Some day I suppose I'll fall in love and be as big a fool as some of the other fellows. You'll have to take second place then. Unless," he added with a lightness of speech not characteristic of him, "unless you do the same thing, and then you won't care."

Freeda was silent, and Edward was afraid he had hurt her feelings in some way.

"Did I hurt you, Freeda?" he asked more as he used to speak when they were together on the farm.

"No, Ned," she replied softly, and they both walked on for some distance without talking.

"I have a little confession to make, Freeda," at last Edward spoke, his old habit of extreme truthfulness compelling him to the statement. "I've had to study on Sunday lately. I've been so busy I couldn't get my lectures any other way."

"Don't do it, Ned," Freeda urged after a moment, during which Edward had a conviction that his confession had affected her disagreeably.

"Don't you?"

"No, I don't believe in it."

"Nor Miss Seton, either?" asked Edward, a little ironically.

Ida Seton was a great friend of Freeda's and was rooming with her this term.

"Yes, Ida studies once in awhile on Sundays," said Freeda reluctantly. "I can't make her see it the way I do."

"There's nothing very wicked about it."

"No, but it's foolish. You don't gain anything by it in the long run."

"Then I don't see," answered Edward, with a growl, "why the professor gives it to us so heavy for. Fridays they give us a double dose, as if they expected us to study on Sunday. Ladd told me today that more than three-fourths of all the fellows have to study on Sunday."

"They think they have to, maybe. But they don't really have to. Beside Ned, you know mother would not like it, and the president must be opposed to it."

"He's never said anything against it."

"No, but he may at any of his Friday talks. Tell me, Ned, if the president comes out against it, will you give it up?"

"I will if Miss Seton will," replied Edward, laughing.

"I'll tell her," replied Freeda quickly.

"No, don't do that!" cried Edward, feeling alarmed at the idea.

"I shall, though. You've promised," Freeda laughed, and all Edward's remonstrances, which lasted until they parted at the door of the hall, would not change her purpose.

"Oh, well, she won't give it up anyway," was Edward's parting shot as he left Freeda.

"I'll see about that," she replied, and she was silently determined that he should be made to keep his word if she had any influence over her roommate. It was perhaps a coincidence that the president chose for his Friday talk that very week the subject of how best to spend a Sunday in college. Edward afterward charged Freeda and one or two other girls who felt as she did with having been to the president and urged him to speak on the subject. Freeda did not deny that she had talked with the president on the matter, and the very next day after her talk with her brother; but she said she had not asked him to take the subject for one of his Friday talks. He had told her that for some time he had been intending to do so anyway.

The college listened with peculiar interest that day. Probably more than half of the entire student body was in the habit of more or less Sunday study.

The president spoke briefly of several good ways for a student to use the day, and then went on to give his reasons why Sunday study was not only unnecessary, but absolutely harmful in the long run:

"First.—First of all, you need one whole day in the week for complete change of programme. To keep right on studying seven days in a week is contrary to God's great law of change and rest.

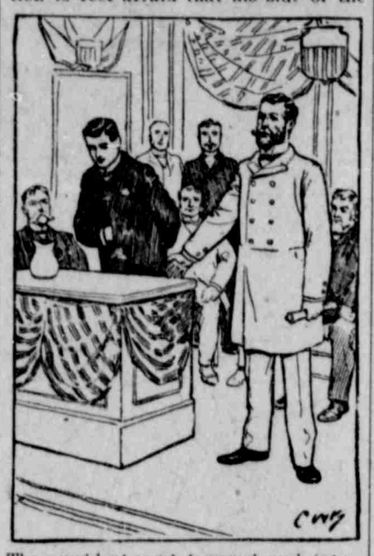
"Second.—If you are in the habit of thinking that the Saturday study does not remain as fresh with you as the Sunday study, probably your method of study, especially of memorizing, is at fault. You need to memorize so as to retain the lesson for a longer period than simply one day.

"Third.—The Sunday study is apt to dull the mind instead of brighten it. Experience seems to prove the truth of this statement. The best students in my university were the men who rested on Sunday or at least did some work in connection with the day that gave them new ideas of other things outside of a regular college course. The college student who is interested in nothing but the books and studies of his college life will develop in a small way. He needs to give the religious life a chance at him, a full sweep unhindered by the books that have held his attention during the week.

"Fourth.—In some way a change of the weekday holiday from Saturday to Monday would be desirable. I am somewhat in favor of that plan, and in some colleges where it is adopted the results are excellent. But whether such a change is ever made at Hope or not the excuse that the student must study on Sunday because Saturday is his rightful play day does not hold good. It does not, because the students who manage to get their Monday lessons without studying on Sunday prove my statement. If it was an absolute necessity to study Sunday for any reason, then that necessity would be seen in the failure of those students who refuse to use Sunday for study. Monday failures in the classroom do not come from an absence of Sunday study. They come from other causes.

"Fifth.—We are here in this college for something in addition to the things we can find in the textbooks. Sunday comes to us for the purpose of giving us an opportunity to enrich our lives with meditation and rest and service. A college student will grow narrow and selfish unless he does something on Sunday that he does not do on other days. Teach a class somewhere in the church where you attend. Help some Christian cause that needs it. Use the day for building up tired physical and mental forces, but I beg of you do not use the day, even a small part of it, to study the college lessons. It is harmful to mind and body, and in the long run it will leave you poorer in spirit and in all those qualities that go to make a full grown man and woman."

Edward was busy that afternoon getting ready for the debate in the evening, and he did not have time to see Freeda and comment on the president's talk or ask her what Miss Seton was going to do. He went up to his room right after dinner and lay down for half an hour. Then he went over the whole debate carefully. He went down town and carried his papers and immediately after supper went to his room again, rested for a little while, dressed for the evening and then spent the time until he was expected at the chapel in rehearsing his speech. He was not afraid of forgetting it, and he thought he had no timidity before an audience. The only thing that gave him any trouble was the selection of the judges. Two of them were pronounced partisans in politics. He knew enough about the whole debate over the Philippine question to feel afraid that his side of the



The president went forward and introduced Edward.

question would be contrary to the political views of these two men. Yet they had been selected as judges who would give an impartial decision, and Edward had enough magnanimity to give them credit for treating him fairly.

"I've done the best I could," he muttered as he finally blew out his lights and walked over to chapel hall. His pulses were beating high as he heard the college yells on the chapel steps. The crowd was coming up the hill, also from down town, as the interest in the debate was more than local. As he went in by the side door, where the speakers on programmes went up stairs to the room back of the platform, he began to feel that strange dread of a crowd which nearly all public speakers at some time or other have felt. When he reached the room, some of this feeling had left him, but he was still under a tense excitement.

Wilson was in the room, and the president, who was to preside, came up a moment after Edward. He said a few words of encouragement to both of them, and his hearty manner did both the young men good.

Then he led the way out upon the platform. The chapel was choked with a great crowd, one of the greatest ever known. As the president appeared, followed by the contestants, the college cheered. The girls had come in with small flags representing the rival societies. They had waved them, and the members of the societies tried to drown one another's voices in shouting for Wilson or Blake.

Edward was conscious of the crowd, and he saw Freeda's sympathetic face, with that of Miss Seton, looking up at him. The sight helped him. Somehow he associated Miss Seton's face with Freeda's, as if both girls were equally interested in his success. The president spoke a few words, stating the rules that were to govern the debate. He then introduced Wilson, the speaker on the affirmative of the question:

"Resolved, That the United States is justified in the present war in the Philippines."

Wilson rose and walked slowly forward. The great crowd was as still now as it had been noisy before, and the great debate had begun.

CHAPTER VIII.

Wilson began his speech slowly and was evidently cool and determined. He had been in college two years longer than Edward and had had more training as a speaker. He had as a sophomore won the second prize for the best declamation in the annual contest and was considered the best all around speaker in the society that was rival to the one in which Edward had his membership.

The arguments of Wilson were in brief that the United States was justified in carrying on the war in the Philippines, because the natives were the first to provoke the outbreak, because they were in reality rebels in that the islands belonged to the United States by purchase and the authority of our government was being defied; that to withdraw our troops would mean a condition of anarchy and result in more cruelty and loss of life than would result from the war; that in short the war was necessary before the United States could assert its control, inasmuch as the Tagalos did not represent the Filipinos as a race, but were only a small part of all the inhabitants, the majority of whom were willing to become subject to our authority. He closed with an appeal to all loyal Americans to uphold the flag and do all in their power to support the government in its efforts to end the war speedily and inaugurate a reign of peace and justice in the islands that had for so long a time been the victim of greed and priesterraft.

As Wilson closed very strongly, he received tremendous applause, that broke out again and again. The president rose to introduce Edward, but the applause continued, and he sat down again. The girls who were friends of Wilson's society waved their flags, while the girls who sided with Blake held theirs down over the seats. For five minutes the shouting and demonstration continued. Then the president went forward and introduced Edward for the negative, and the chapel suddenly became as still as it had been boisterous.

Edward felt his knees tremble as he went forward, and his tongue was dry and his hands cold. For a second or two he was horrified to find that he could not remember the very first sentence of his speech. He actually made a beginning a paragraph farther on. Then he stopped just long enough to make it seem either that he was very deliberate or that he was not quite sure. But his manner was naturally slow, and it is doubtful if any of the college people noticed anything strange.

Then he gathered himself together, and went on finely, doing his best, and gaining added interest in the argument as it developed.

He took the ground that war between nations is never justified, except when every other measure has been exhausted. He claimed that every measure had not been exhausted in the present war in the Philippines. He cited in support of his argument several witnesses from the seat of the war itself. He also called attention to several instances where more serious international disputes had been settled by arbitration. He then went on to quote quite largely from one of the members of the supreme court of the United States, who had come out in a speech against the war and had opposed the policy of colonial expansion. "This eminent jurist has said:

"'Again, a necessity of colonial possessions is an increase in our regular army, and the first increase proposed is from 30,000 to 100,000 men. It is a strange commentary that, at the close of the nineteenth century, the head of the most arbitrary government in the civilized world, the czar of the Russias, is inviting the nations of the world to a decrease in their arms, while this, the freest land, is proposing an increase in its. Yet such seems to be the imperative need if we enter upon the system of colonial expansion. We have lived and prospered for 123 years with a handful of regular troops. We have preserved peace at home, and have been respected abroad. Government by consent of the governed has little need of the soldier. So the world has come to believe, and so it is. Are we ready to forfeit this high position? Do we not endanger the very foundation principles of this government when we make the blare of the bugles and the tramp of the armed battalion the music which is heard on every side and the inspiration which attracts the ambition of our youth?'

"If," continued Edward, as he finished the quotation, "we begin to war on a nation for conquest, what future do we anticipate for our country? To quote again from the same source, from this distinguished member of our highest court whose motives certainly cannot be impugned as selfish or partisan:

"'My friends, two visions rise before me: One of a nation, growing in population, riches and strength, reaching out the strong hand to bring within its dominion weaker and distant races and lands; holding them by force for the rapid wealth they may bring—with perhaps the occasional glory, success and sacrifice of war; a wondrously luxurious life into which the fortunate few shall enter; an accumulation of magnificence which, for a term, will charm and dazzle, and then the shadow of the awful question whether human nature has changed, and the old law, that history repeats itself, has lost its force; whether the ascending splendor of imperial power is to be followed by the descending gloom of luxury, decay and ruin. The other of a nation, where the spirit of the Pilgrim and the Huguenot remains the living and controlling force, devoting its energies to the development of the inexhaustible resources of its great continental territory; solving the problem of universal personal and political liberty, of a government by the consent of the governed, where no king, no class and no race rules, but each individual has equal voice and power in the control of all, where wealth comes only as the compensation for honest toil of hand or brain, where public service is private duty; a nation whose supreme value to the world lies not in its power but in its unfailing loyalty to the high ideals of its youth, its forever lifting its strong hand, not to govern, but only to protect, the weak; and thus the bright shining which brightens more and more into the fadeless eternal day.

"'Brethren, Ebal and Gerizim are before us. Might and right stand on either side, with their great appeals.

"'Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide
In the strife of truth with falsehood for the good or evil side;
Careless seems the great Avenger; history's pages but record
One death grapple in the darkness 'twixt old systems and the word.
Truth forever on the scaffold, wrong forever on the throne,
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and behind the dim unknown
Standeth God within the shadow keeping watch above his own.

"'We see dimly in the present what is small and what is great,
Slow of faith how weak an arm may turn the iron helm of fate,
But the soul is still oracular, and amid the market's din,
List the ominous stern whisper from the Delphic cave within:
They enslave their children's children who make compromise with sin.

"'Paraphrasing in part the invocation which attends the opening of the supreme court, God save the United States of America and keep them from the road so often traveled by nations, of increasing territory, accumulating dominion, rapidly and easily acquired wealth, luxurious splendor, a growing separation between the poor and the rich, presaging decay and death, and may we always hear the solemn prayer of Abraham Lincoln borne upward to heaven from the consecrated field of Gettysburg upon the mighty volume of patriotic incense which ever rises from that sacred spot, that government of and by and for the people may never perish from the earth.'"

It was very still while Edward was presenting this part of his argument, for the quotation was from an address so recent that it was not generally known and, so far as Edward knew it, had not been printed in any of the Raynor papers. One of the judges listened with a marked expression of surprise, as if he could hardly believe that a judge of the supreme court of the United States could be the author of the sentiments attributed to him in the address. [Address by Hon. David Brewer, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, before the Liberal club, Buffalo, Feb. 16, 1899.]

There was no attempt, at any point in his speech, to break out into applause, as there had been in the case of Wilson. Even when Edward closed his description of the horrors of war in general, by quoting Willis' story of the battle and the death of the native Filipino and her baby, there was not the slightest indication that he had any sympathy from the audience. It was only when he finally closed and walked back to his seat, that the applause broke out, and apparently it was then fully as hearty and prolonged as that which followed Wilson's peroration.

In Wilson's rejoinder, he showed a slight hesitation, similar to that which had marked Edward's beginning. Those who knew what he had prepared, said afterward that he left out a large part of what he intended to say, and extemporized to a great extent. However that may be, he spoke with considerable force and again provoked loud applause.

Edward closed the debate with a rebuttal that, in the opinion of a large part of the student body, was far stronger than his main argument and again divided the honors with Wilson, as far as applause was concerned.

And now came the most trying moment of the evening to the young contestants. The judges retired to make their decision, and while they were out the glee club sang by request. When some one called for the old war song "O Cuba, the land that ought to be free!" it seemed to some of the audience that the sentiment provoked by it was in the nature of a prophecy, anticipating the decision of the judges against Edward. There was no doubt that, owing to the enthusiasm for the war, Edward had the unpopular side of the question. And yet, more than one woman in the audience that night, thinking of her own child safe and warm in its bed at home, felt her eyes dim at the memory of Willis' picture, as Edward had drawn it from his letter. If these women had been the judges, it is possible that the verdict would have been very quickly reached.

The glee club sang half a dozen selections, and still the judges did not appear. The classes began to stamp their feet and shout their class yells. Wilson and Edward, who had remained on the platform, were uncomfortably nervous, although neither of them showed it.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Necessary Expenses for Twelve Weeks' School.

Persons who board themselves can spend as much or little as they choose on living expenses.

It pays to have a little extra money for lectures, books, and other things. But the necessary expenses are only as follows:

To pay the first day:

		HOWARD HALL	LADIES HALL
School Expenses	Incidental Fee	$ 4 50	$4 50
	Hospital Fee	25	25
	Books, etc., about	2 00	2 00
	General Deposit	1 00	1 00
	Room (stove, table, etc.)	2 00	2 50
	Fuel and Oil	2 50	3 00
	Rent of Laundry		50
	First Month's Board	5 00	5 00
		17 25	18 75
Living Expenses	To pay during the term:		
	Laundry	1 50	
	Beginning 2d Mo., Board	5 00	5 00
	Beginning 3d Mo., Board	5 00	5 00
		28 75	28 75
	Gen'l Deposit returned	1 00	1 00
Total Expense, 12 Weeks		**27.75**	**27 75**

For those below A Grammar deduct the $2 for books, and $1 from incidental fee, making the total only **$24.75.**

When four girls room together each saves $1 on room, and $2 or more on fuel, making the total only **$21.75,** if classed below A Grammar.

Fuel is 50 cents more in Winter and 50 cents less in Spring term.

Two rooms for housekeeping, with stoves, etc., can usually be rented for from $1 to $6 a term.

The price of a big calf, a little tan-bark, or a few home-spun bed-covers, will give a term of school which will change one's whole life for the better!